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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL NATO CAPITALS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY

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FOLLOWING REPEAT TAIPEI 06042 ACTION SECSTATE INFO HONG KONG
BANGKOK GENEVA SEP 8

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TAIPEI 06042

E. O. 11652 : N/A

TAGS : SREF

SUBJECT : AIR FLIGHTS AND BOAT CASES - TAIWAN, ROC

1. AIR EVAC (ICRC) HCM CITY/BANGKOK/TAIPEI:

THERE ARE INDOCHINESE PERSONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF
CHINA(ROC) WHO WERE ABLE TO CLAIM RESETTLEMENT
IN THE ROC OR RIGHTS OF RETURN TO THE ROC. WITH
THE HELP OF THE INTE

N

ATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE

RED CROSS, THE GROC IS ACCEPTING FOR PERMANENT
RESETTLEMENT HERE CERTAIN INDOCHINESE PERSONS
THAT THEY CONSIDER REFUGEES OF CHINESE ORIGIN.

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THESE PERSONS NORMALLY HAVE ROC PASSPORTS IN THEIR
POSSESSION AND HAVE RELATIVES HERE. SINCE SEPTEMBER
1976 ABOUT 2100 PERSONS HAVE TRAVELLED TO TAIPEI
FROM THE SRV TO BANGKOK. THEY THEN HAVE PROCEEDED
TO THE ROC ABOARD ABOUT 14 SEPARATE FLIGHTS (SEE
PARA 6).

2. BOAT CASES:

SINCE EARLY 1977 ABOUT 900 INDOCHINESE BOAT REFUGEES HAVE BEEN LANDED IN THE ROC. THE FIRST BOAT REFUGEES TO BE RESETTLED IN THE UNITED STATES LEFT THE ROC IN FEBRUARY 1978. THIS IS THE ONLY GROUP RESETTLED. IN 1978 ALONE THERE HAVE BEEN THIRTEEN BOATS WHICH HAVE LANDED ABOUT 800 BOAT REFUGEES IN THE ROC. MOST RECENTLY ON AUGUST 21, 1978 THE BRITISH SHIP "AVON FOREST" LANDED 40 INDOCHINESE BOAT REFUGEES. THE GROC WAS GUARANTEED BY THE UKG THAT THIS GROUP OF BOAT REFUGEES WOULD LEAVE TAIWAN WITHIN THREE MONTHS. FROM THE TOTAL GROUP OF BOAT REFUGEES, THE UNITED STATES HAS ACCEPTED FOR RESETTLEMENT 53 PERSONS AND THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA HAS ACCEPTED 11, ALL ETHNIC CHINESE. THUS THERE REMAIN ABOUT 800 BOAT REFUGEES HERE.

3. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF THESE 800 BOAT REFUGEES MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR LRP CATEGORIES I, II, AND III. THE MAJORITY OF THE REFUGEES PROBABLY WILL BE CATEGORY IV. HOW SOON ANY CATEGORY IV'S MAY BE MOVED IS UNKNOWN. OTHER THAN THE USG AND THE GROC THERE ARE NO OTHER GOVERNMENTS ACCEPTING REFUGEES FROM TAIWAN FOR PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT (WITH THE EXCEPTION OF FOUR REFUGEES WHO HAVE APPLIED TO RESETTLE IN AUSTRALIA AND THE "AVON FOREST" FORTY.) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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4. IN EARLY SEPTEMBER AN U.S. IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION OFFICER FROM HONG KONG WILL ARRIVE IN THE ROC TO INTERVIEW INDOCHINESE BOAT REFUGEES. GROC AUTHORITIES HOPE THAT ONCE THESE INTERVIEWS ARE FINISHED AND THE REFUGEE CATEGORIES CONFIRMED, ELIGIBLE BOAT REFUGEES WILL BE QUICKLY MOVED ON TO THE U.S. THERE WILL, HOWEVER, REMAIN THE PROBLEM OF THOSE BOAT REFUGEES WHO ARE NOT ACCEPTED BY THE UNITED STATES AND WHO DO NOT WISH TO REMAIN OR PROBABLY CANNOT REMAIN IN TAIWAN, E.G., NON-ETHNIC CHINESE.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: BC ALTHOUGH NOT ASKED FOR THIS INFORMATION BY THE GROC, THE EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING IF IT IS POSSIBLE THAT ARRANGEMENTS MIGHT BE MADE WITH OTHER COUNTRIES WHO ARE ACCEPTING REFUGEES TO CONSIDER THE PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT OF SOME OF THE BOAT REFUGEES IN TAIWAN WHO ARE UNABLE TO QUALIFY UNDER THE LRP AND WHO DO NOT WISH OR PROBABLY CANNOT REMAIN IN TAIWAN AS THEY ARE NOT ETHNIC CHINESE.

6. AIR(ICRC) EVAC BOAT CASES
 ARRIVAL DATE NUMBER OF REFUGEES ARRIVAL DATE NUMBER OF
 OF
 CHINESE ORIGIN VARIOUS
 ORIGIN

SEP 9, 1976 194 DEC 28, 1977 20

MAY 19, 1977 142 MAR 17, 1978 47

MAY 23, 1977 134 APR 28, 1978 17

AUG 27, 1977 152 MAY 5, 1978 32

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AUG 29, 1977 157 JUN 2, 1978 8

SEP 10, 1977 152 JUN 9, 1978 21

MAY 13, 1978 150 JUN 10, 1978 12

JUNE 8, 1978 152 JUN 15, 1978 2

JULY 13, 1978 155 JUN 15, 1978 19

JULY 20, 1978 156 JUN 27, 1978 113

AUG 3, 1978 144 JUL 2, 1978 33

AUG 10, 1978 154 JUL 4, 1978 10

AUG 24, 1978 148 AUG 14, 1978 444

AUG 31, 1978 145 AUG 23, 1978 40(AVON
 - FOREST)

TOTAL REFUGEES 2,135 TOTAL REGUGEEES 818
 UNGER. UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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